



SANDISFIELD

Berkshire County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Sandisfield is a small rural community located in the foothills of the Berkshires. It is a residential town which still retains some of the farming families that have formed the core of the town for the last two hundred years. The town prides itself on the fact that it has kept its rural atmosphere and woodlands, and as a result the population doubles in the summer, with visitors and summer residents drawn by this atmosphere. The two small industries in town are the New Boston Nursing Home and Carr Metal Products. Other businesses include lumber mills, family owned restaurants, and independent contractors.

Sandisfield is also a community containing highly dedicated volunteers who respond to the needs of the town in areas such as the volunteer fire department, EMT squad, police, town offices and various children's and elderly organizations. The small school system in Sandisfield has merged with Otis to form the Farmington River Regional School District, which provides a skiing program during the winter for the students sponsored by the P.T.O. The library and community center along with the town hall and new firehouse, comprise important community resources.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Norfolk and Colebrook, Connecticut, on the south; New Marlborough and Monterey on the west and northwest; Otis on the north and northeast; and Tolland on the east. Sandisfield is 35 miles west of Springfield, 33 miles south of Pittsfield, 125 miles southwest of Boston, and 130 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 53.03 sq. miles

Land Area: 52.32 sq. miles

Population: 667

Density: 13 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Great Barrington Station)

Normal temperature in January.....20.1°F

Normal temperature in July.....68.1°F

Normal annual precipitation.....44.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Tolland Center, South Sandisfield, Monterey, Otis

Regional Planning Agency

Berkshire County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 258-4711

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1762

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	496		
Democrats	157	31.7	%
Republicans	63	12.7	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	276	55.6	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Sandisfield town, Berkshire County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	824	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	824	100.0
Male.....	442	53.6	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	8	1.0
Female.....	382	46.4	Mexican.....	1	0.1
Under 5 years.....	39	4.7	Puerto Rican.....	2	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	35	4.2	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	64	7.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	5	0.6
15 to 19 years.....	41	5.0	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	816	99.0
20 to 24 years.....	21	2.5	White alone.....	796	96.6
25 to 34 years.....	89	10.8	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	126	15.3	Total population.....	824	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	167	20.3	In households.....	774	93.9
55 to 59 years.....	53	6.4	Householder.....	327	39.7
60 to 64 years.....	41	5.0	Spouse.....	191	23.2
65 to 74 years.....	83	10.1	Child.....	196	23.8
75 to 84 years.....	56	6.8	Own child under 18 years.....	146	17.7
85 years and over.....	9	1.1	Other relatives.....	36	4.4
Median age (years).....	44.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	16	1.9
18 years and over.....	658	79.9	Nonrelatives.....	24	2.9
Male.....	356	43.2	Unmarried partner.....	15	1.8
Female.....	302	36.7	In group quarters.....	50	6.1
21 years and over.....	641	77.8	Institutionalized population.....	48	5.8
62 years and over.....	173	21.0	Noninstitutionalized population.....	2	0.2
65 years and over.....	148	18.0	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	85	10.3	Total households.....	327	100.0
Female.....	63	7.6	Family households (families).....	213	65.1
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	81	24.8
One race.....	807	97.9	Married-couple family.....	191	58.4
White.....	798	96.8	With own children under 18 years.....	75	22.9
Black or African American.....	4	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	13	4.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	1	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	3	0.9
Asian.....	1	0.1	Nonfamily households.....	114	34.9
Asian Indian.....	-	-	Householder living alone.....	98	30.0
Chinese.....	-	-	Householder 65 years and over.....	39	11.9
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	93	28.4
Japanese.....	-	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	88	26.9
Korean.....	1	0.1	Average household size.....	2.37	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.99	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	647	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	327	50.5
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	320	49.5
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	296	45.7
Some other race.....	3	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	3.1	(X)
Two or more races.....	17	2.1	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	4.3	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	327	100.0
White.....	815	98.9	Owner-occupied housing units.....	282	86.2
Black or African American.....	8	1.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	45	13.8
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	15	1.8	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.44	(X)
Asian.....	1	0.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.89	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	6	0.7			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Sandisfield is situated in Berkshire County, a region of hills and low mountains that widen to create the Berkshire Valley in the south. The major cities and towns are linked together by U.S. Route 7. North Adams and Pittsfield are major points of entry for rail freight into Massachusetts, and the region has several commercial airports. Public roads and highways meet the requirements of modern transportation.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 8 running N-S and State Route 57, which runs along the southern portion of the state between Great Barrington and Springfield.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Sandisfield, but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Sandisfield is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

The Great Barrington Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,579'x 50' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

New Boston Nursing Home Inc.

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.